

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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8th March 2026

Welcome to our services!

Welcome everyone to St John's Church, West Byfleet for our services this Sunday. Please join us after the service for refreshments and please do make yourselves known to the ministers or churchwardens. If you would like to receive regular copies of this notice sheet, please send your email address to Vicky in the Parish Office – admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk
All children are very welcome at St John's – and please don't worry if they are restless, or sometimes noisy. The Children's Corner is situated at the front of the church on the left; you are most welcome to spend time there during the service. Toilets and changing facilities can be found in our adjacent Cornerstone Centre.

Would you like someone to pray with you?

A member of the Pastoral Team will be available to pray with you after the 10am service each Sunday. If you would like to take this opportunity, please make your way to the Prayer Corner at the end of the service and one of us will be waiting for you. The Minister leading the service on the day may also be available.

Large print versions of the Notices Sheet and of the Order of Service are available from the welcomers

Please make use of our hearing loop system if this would be helpful to you



Today's readings are **John 4: 5-42** and **Exodus 17: 1-7**

Keith writes...

We have all been deeply disturbed as well as saddened this week by the news of the death of our Bishop, Andrew Watson. We knew it was coming, but it has come so quickly. Only a few weeks ago we were looking forward to seeing him at the Confirmation Service on 15th March but it was not to be. (The service will be going ahead, with Bishop Peter Hancock coming instead.)

Bishop Andrew was a relatively young man and his death is shocking and seems untimely. But he has inspired us by the dignity and honesty of his communications with us in recent weeks and the steadfastness of his faith. We will remember him with gratitude and pray for his family at this time of great loss. Remember too his colleagues who will be mourning whilst carrying additional burdens at the same time. These include our own family members Geraldine Newbold and Jo Winn-Smith. Bishop Paul has written a prayer for us to use at this time and everyone will receive a copy at Sunday's services.

*Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for Andrew,
our brother and bishop:
for his faith and faithfulness to you
in life and in leadership.*

*As we mourn his death
and commend him to your everlasting arms,
give us the same faith, hope and love,
rooted in the death and resurrection of your son, Jesus.
We pray especially for Beverly,
Hannah, Sam, Joe, Lydia and the whole family.
Comfort them with your Holy Spirit and protect them in their grief.
And bring us, at the last, with Andrew and all your children,
to that eternal joy where you live and reign in glory forever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

This Week's Prayer List

For the sick:

Joyce Ebbage, Mark Asplin, Lionel Griffiths, Roy Metcalfe, Ollie, Rose & Marie Crocket, Hannah, Pauline Kennedy, Sarah Helmy, Chrissie Beddows, Lilian Rance, Davida & Angus Whimster, Gareth, Amanda & Jasper, Margaret Blamey, John Blamey, Graham Smith, Caroline Hill, Mavis Margaroni, Michael Doughty.

Remembering the departed:

Barbara Knowles & Bishop Andrew

Please send any new prayer requests or updates to admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk

Parish Office

For all general (non-urgent) enquiries, please contact the Parish Office by emailing admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk, or phone 01932 342263 (leave a message if the office is closed). The Parish Office opening hours are usually: Mon 12pm – 3pm, Wed 12pm – 3pm, Fri 12pm – 3pm.

All Saints' New Haw Weekly Newsletter

To view of a copy of the latest church family newsletter please visit <https://www.allsaints-newhaw.org/news>

Mothering Sunday

On **Saturday 14th March from 2:30pm**, in Church, with the help of the Guides, we will be making posies to be given out at the 10:00am service the following day. If anyone would like to come and join us, your help would be greatly appreciated.

If anyone has any greenery they could let us have to use in the posies it would be much appreciated as would financial contributions as the flower fund is low at present.

Electoral Roll Revision

St John's Electoral Roll is being updated prior to this year's APCM in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Please note that this is just an update and if your name is currently on the Electoral Roll you do not need to do anything.

If you are new to St John's or your name is not included on the current Electoral Roll and you wish to have it added, you should apply for entry by completing a form and returning it to Angie Dedman or the Church Office, no later than **Wednesday 1st April**. Forms can be obtained from Angie or the church office.

Lent

Lent group meetings will continue at St Michael's Church, Sheerwater on **Wednesdays 11th, 18th and 25th March at 7pm for a 7:15pm start**. All are welcome.

Contemplative Service with Taizé at All Saints' New Haw

Sunday 22nd March at 6pm – Join us in church for a quiet, meditative service with readings, space for prayer & reflection, & Taizé music. We will gather in silence & leave in silence.

Blister Packs

Thank you to those who had previously donated blister packs for recycling. We are now no longer collecting. Many thanks.

Exhibition – Ewa Brachel 'From Despair to Hope'

During Holy Week and the following week there will be an Exhibition of Digital Paintings in the Nave of our church by the Polish artist Ewa Brachel entitled 'From Despair to Hope'. These remarkable large pictures relate to the life of Christ, especially the last week. They will be in place of the Stations of the Cross. Besides our normal service times, our church will be open to the public to view the pictures from 11.30am to 4.00pm each day from Sunday 29th March to Sunday 12th April. Donations will go to brain cancer research. Representatives from churches and the wider community are being invited to a Preview Evening. We are aiming to have stewarding throughout the exhibition, as much as anything to welcome visitors, give guidance and address questions. Anthony will be leading this. I hope you will consider volunteering a couple of hours or so to help Anthony with this stewarding if you are able. Also there are (damp-proof!) fliers and posters available, so please help with publicity. Anthony is happy to answer questions.

Noticeboard

Please include these events in your daily prayers. All are welcome to Morning Prayer as well as to Parish Eucharist.

Saturday 7th March

10:00am Church open

Sunday 8th March

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Monday 9th March

9.30am Morning prayer with Our Lady RC Church

10:00am Church open

Tuesday 10th March

10:00am Church open

6:15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 11th March

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 12th March

10:00am Church open

Friday 13th March

10:00am Church open

Saturday 14th March

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 15th March

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Mothering Sunday Service followed by refreshments

6:30pm Confirmation Service

Advance Dates

Monday 23rd March

Sunday 29th March

Sunday 29th March

Monday 20th April

Saturday 9th May

What is God calling you to? At 7:30pm in the DH Room

Palm Sunday Service at 10am

Music & Readings for Palm Sunday at 6:30pm

Summer Fair meeting at 7pm in the DH Room

Coffee Morning in aid of Woking Hospice at 10:30am

Clergy Contact Details

Our Vicar is Revd Keith Elford. He is also Vicar of All Saints, New Haw. Keith may be contacted at vicarwestbyfleetandnewhaw@gmail.com (note the new email address). His normal day off is Friday. For urgent enquiries outside of these times, contact our Churchwarden: **Neil Hatton** – 07593 372931. For prayer requests, please contact **Geoff Jones** - 01932 851830.